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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL <i>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))</i>	Attorney Docket No.	3124.2.1.2	Total Pages	47
	First Named Inventor or Application Identifier			
	Vernon S. Esplin			
	Express Mail Label No.	EV323275338US		

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APPLICATION ELEMENTS <i>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</i>	Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <i>(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)</i></p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <i>Total Pages</i> <input type="text" value="30"/> <i>(preferred arrangement set forth below)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Descriptive title of the Invention- Cross References to Related Application- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D- Reference to Microfiche Appendix- Background of the Invention- Brief Summary of the Invention- Brief Description of the Drawings <i>(if filed)</i>- Detailed Description- Claim(s)- Abstract of the Disclosure <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <i>(35 USC 113)</i> <i>[Total Sheets]</i> <input type="text" value="15"/></p> <p>5. Oath or Declaration <i>[Total Pages]</i> <input type="text" value="1"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy)b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) <i>(for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)</i> <i>[Note Box 5 below]</i>i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporation by Reference <i>(useable if Box 4b is checked)</i> The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.</p>	<p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program <i>(Appendix)</i></p> <p>8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission <i>(if applicable, all necessary)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copyb. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identify of above copies <p>ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney <i>(when there is an assignee)</i></p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document <i>(if applicable)</i></p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) <i>(Should be specifically itemized)</i></p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <i>if foreign priority is claimed)</i></p> <p>17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Express Mail Certificate</p>

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 09/808,456

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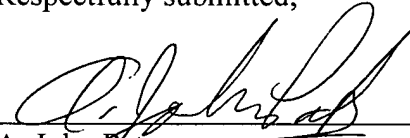
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Date of Deposit: March 29, 2004

I hereby certify that this patent application in the name of Vernon S. Esplin for "SOFT TISSUE ANCHOR" together with fifteen (15) sheets of drawings; a copy of the prior filed Declaration, Power of Attorney, and Petition; transmittal letter; and a return postcard, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant

Date: March 29, 2004

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